National AIDS Control Programme Release of funds during 1998-99

(Rupees in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Funds Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	650.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	
3.	Assam	
4.	Bihar	110.00
5.	Goa	35.00
6.	Gujarat	
7.	Haryana	160.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	100.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	
10	Karnataka	335.00
11	Kerala	
12	Madhya Pradesh	315.00
13	Maharashtra	800.00
14	Manipur	210.00
15	Meghalaya	
16	Mizoram	60.00
17	Nagaland	160.00
18	Orissa	
19	Punjab	110.00
20	Rajasthan	
21	Sikkim	50.00
22	Tamilnadu	800.00
23	Tripura	
24	Uttar Pradesh	200.00
25	West Bengal	350.00
26	Pondicherry	40.00
27	A & N Islands	
28	Chandigarh	60.00
29	D & N Haveli	
30	Daman & Diu	
31	Delhi	110.00
32	Lakshadweep	
33.	Mumbai Distt. AIDS Society	350.00
	TOTAL	5005.00

Conversion of Rupsa-Bangiriposhi and Nvapara-Gunupur Rail Lines

*95. SHRI ANANTA SETHI:
SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:

Will the Miniter of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work for conversion of Rupsa-Bangiriposhi and Nvapara-Gunupur rail lines in Orissa has been started; if so, the details, thereof;

(b) the fund allocations made for the purpose so far;

(c) the progress of projects, as on date; and

(d) the year by which these would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Work has already been started on the gauge conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi. As far as Naupada-Gunupur is concerned, the work is included in the Railway Budget and will be taken up once the requisite clearances have been obtained, for which action has already been initiated.

(b) The fund allocations made for Rupsa-Bangriposi so far are Rs. 1,87,64,000/- upto 31.3.98 and Rs. 2 crs. have been provided in the current financial year. For Naupada-Gunupur fund allocation will be made after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

(c) On Rupsa-Bangriposi project, formation work is in progress from km. 0 to 75. Other works would be taken up in the coming years. On Naupada-Gunupur, work will be progressed only after the clearances have been received.

(d) The work on Rupsa-Bangriposi is expected to be completed in the 10th Five Year Plan subject to availability of resources. Forम Naupada-Gunupur target can only be fixed once clearances are available and work is taken up.

Ecological devastation in India

*96. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the comments in UNDP's 1998

Human Development Report to the effect that India is heading for ecological devastation; and

(b) the corrective steps proposed to check environmental pollution, especially Air and Water pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH P. PRABHU): (a) The Human Development Report published by UNDP in 199?examines the perspective of human development in the light of the consumption pattern at the global level. It suggests that despite a dramatic surge in consumption globally, the consumption pattern in many countries is socially as well as environmentally not sustainable. This is true for most developing countries, including India, when seen in the context of rising population, poverty and depletion of natural resources. The focus of the Report is not on environmental damage alone but takes into account various parameters of human development like health, literacy, poverty, consumption pattern and gender issues covering various regions and countries.

The Report says that India is paying "an enormous price" for economic development which has brought in its wake "ecological devastation" and numerous health problems. While discussing the cost of such environmental degradation, it estimates such cost at US$ 10 billion for India, that is around 4.5% of the GDP in 1992.

For a substantial segment of the human population living in poverty, increased consumption is a vital necessity and a basic right in order to ensure freedom from poverty. Although some aspects of such increased consumption do undermine prospects of sustainable human development for all, environmental damage can be reversed or minimised by following a sustainable development paradigm.

The UNDP Report also commends India on the environmental initiatives taken for mitigating such damage. It praises India's efforts in many fields including afforestation programme, health and literacy.

(b) The steps taken to check environmental pollution include the following:

1.Government have formulated the following policy initiatives for protecting and improving the environment: The National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement of Environment and Development, 1992, Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, 1992 and National Forest Policy, 1988.

2.The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 provide the legal backing for enforcing pollution control measures.

3. A comprehensive enforcement structure comprising of central and state government agencies is in place, including the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards/ Committees.

4. Ambient air and water quality standards, and emission and effluent discharge standards into air and water respectively, have been notified and are being monitored regularly.

5. Environmental clearance is mandatory for 29 categories of developmental projects, including public hearing and environmental impact assessment process.

6. Seventeen categories of highly polluting industries are being rigorously monitored for compliance of the stipulated standards.

7. A number of Common Effluent Treatment Plants are being set up for industrial units.

8. Twenty four critically polluting areas have been identified for pollution abatement and improving the environment. Act on Plans in respect of twenty two critically polluting areas have been finalised and are under various stages of implementation.

9. Ganga Action Plan and National River Conservation Plan are under implementation to improve the river water quality. These plans envisage interception and diversion of municipal sewage from

being discharged into twenty two rivers covering one hundred and fifty six towns in fourteen states. Sewage is to be treated and utilise for irrigation. Industrial pollution of the rivers is controlled under the environmental laws enforced by Central and State Pollution Control Boards.

10. Waste Minimisation Circles are being established for control of pollultion at source for certain highly polluting industries, such as electroplating units, textile dyes and printing units, tanneries and agro-based paper units.

11. Environmental Audit has been made compulsory for certain categories of industrial units.

12. For controlling vehicular pollution, emission norms at the manufacturing stage were introduced for the first time in 1990 and made tighter in 1996. More stringent emission norms will come into effect from 1.4.2000. Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

13. Low lead petrol had been introduced in the four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai w.e.f. June 1994. Subsequently, unleaded petrol was introduced in these four cities with effect from 1.4. 1995. Effective from 1.9.1998, only unleaded petrol is being supplied in Delhi.

14. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority has been set up for the National Capital Region for protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing, controlling and abating environmental pollution. Similarly, an authority has been set up or controlling industrial pollution in the state of Tamil Nadu.

15. The Ministry has initiated environmental epidemiological studies in seven critically polluted areas located in Gujarat, Orissa, Mumbai, Kerala, U.P., Punjab and Delhi.

16.Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas.

BIS Code on occupational safety and Health

*98. SHRI DJPANKKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has formulated a code on practice of occupational safety and health;

(b) if so, the main points of the recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken by Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SURJTT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) The Bureau of Indian Standards has formulated an Indian Standard IS 14489: 1988—Code of Practice on Occupational Safety & Health Audit This standard establishes audit objectives criteria and practices, and provides guidelines for establishing, planning, conducting and documenting of audits on occupational safety and health systems at workplaces. It also provides guidelines for verifying the existence and implementation of elements of occupational safety and health systems and their ability to achieve defined safety objectives.

Implementation of this standard is voluntary in nature. This standard may be used by those organisations which intend to carry out internal audit of their own system and also by those which intend to carry out audit of the systems of other organisations.

Train Accidents

*99. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents which took place in country during 1995-96,1996-97 and 1997-98 and so far in 1998 year-wise and zone-wise;

(b) whether there has been an increase in the train accidents;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;